

Public Library

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Library to Screen Documentary "The Fire Next Time" on July 10 Film Looks at Tensions Over Environmental Issues in Small Town Montana

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library will host "The Fire Next Time," a POV documentary film, on Sunday, July 10 at 2 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. This event is FREE to the public.

"The Fire Next Time" by Patrice O'Neill chronicles two years in the life of a dangerously divided town in northwest Montana where hate and intolerance manifest themselves in a community polarized by rapid change, economic displacement and environmental issues.

The film records the reaction of the people of the Flathead Valley in Montana, who were stunned when a domestic terror cell's plot to kill local leaders was uncovered. Ex-cop Brenda Kitterman and environmentalist Mike Raiman wanted to do something to address the local tensions, but the community was torn. Many residents were losing their jobs in timber and mining, and blamed environmentalists. Adding fuel to the fire was a radio talk show host who declared environmentalists "an enemy... to be annihilated." Over a stormy two-year period, "The Fire Next Time" follows a deeply divided group of Montana citizens caught in a web of conflicts intensified by rapid growth and the power of talk radio.

After the screening a discussion will be facilitated. For more information, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City's Web site at http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/.

^{*}Since 1988 POV has brought the best of independent point-of-view documentaries to a national audience, featuring the work of America's most innovative documentary filmmakers to build new communities in conversation about today's most pressing social issues. A national PBS premiere of this documentary is slated for July 12 at 10 p.m. Check local listings.